

## Ak-Chin PD wins Employee Mega Volleyball Tournament



Ak-Chin Police, Communications, Patrol and Security dominated the 2023 Employee Mega Volleyball Tournament, January 17, 2023.

Story submitted by Ak-Chin Recreation, photos by Runner staff

The first of many employee tournaments, took place on Tuesday, January 17th, with the Employee Mega Volleyball, hosted by Ak-Chin Parks and Recreation.

Department teams included; Recreation, Elder, H.R., Police, Ak-Chin Circle, TGA and Community Government.

This New Year's Mega Employee tournament brought a different degree of good energy and excitement, which was displayed among all teams participating.

It was great to see all employees working together to build stronger community department and enterprise relationships through team work, strategic thinking, problem-solving, and supporting and encouraging

each other.

The employee engagement we witnessed and their commitment to the workplace in terms of time, energy, and the level to which they are willing to push themselves to achieve team success was phenomenal.

The games also encouraged the employees to understand the value of leadership, and it helps improve adaptability,

Mega Volleyball continues to page 3

## Tyaun Marshburn Graduates from ASU

Story by T. Marshburn, photos submitted

My name is Tyaun Marshburn and I am the newest photojournalist at the Runner. I graduated from Arizona State University's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication with my Bachelor's in May of 2020, but because of COVID restrictions I wasn't able to participate in the ceremony until this past December.



Tyaun Marshburn at her graduation ceremony from ASU's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, December 14, 2022.

A little bit about me, I'm from Cleveland, Ohio. I moved to Arizona in 2006. My journey at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism started in 2018. While in college I worked for

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## Grower Clinic

Story and photos by T. Marshburn



Participants gather in front of farming equipment during Grower Clinic at Ak-Chin Farms

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## Ak-Chin Parks & Recreation host 2023 New Years Men's and Women's Open Basketball Tournament

Story submitted by Ak-Chin Recreation, photos by Runner staff



2023 Ak-Chin Parks & Recreation New Years Women's Open Basketball Champions UNKNOWN BALLERZ.

The Ak-Chin Recreation New Year's Men's and Women's Basketball Tournaments were a great success, with 11 women's teams and 24 men's teams from all across Arizona.

With the number of teams registered, two gyms were needed to facilitate the tournament, Maricopa High School Gym and Ak-Chin Gym.

The women's tournament was held January 21-22, 2023 at Maricopa High School gym.

The women's bracket had some intense games, several of which ended up in overtime and even double overtime games.

Unknown Ballerz and Ball It Up, battled on the court for 36 minutes in the championship game.

Unknown Ballerz, undefeated in the tournament were winners of the 2023 Ak-Chin's New Year's Women's Champion. Ball It Up were awarded Runners-Up and taking Third were The Randoms.

Women's basketball has grown drastically over the years in numbers of teams and players, skill level, fans, and energy; it was great to see that in our tournament.

The men's tournament began on Friday, January 20, with games being played at both

Ak-Chin and Maricopa High School gyms. Tournament play resumed Saturday and Sunday, with the remaining games at the Ak-Chin gym.

There were a number of great teams that came and showcased their talent during our first Open Men's Basketball Tournament, after taking a break because of the COVID -19 pandemic.

This year's men's tournament was a great success; left us with many intense rezbball performances and dunks to remember. 46 men's games were played in one weekend in a winner take all tournament.

Sheesh, that's a lot of

basketball! But, we enjoy putting together tournaments that ignite intense, passionate competition and electrifying games.

It was great to see and hear the fans in our stands once again, cheering on their teams.

So many great games were played this weekend and it's always a privilege to see our very own Ak-Chin Ballers showcase their talents.

As teams played to make it

to the Championship game, Those Guys went undefeated into the championship bracket. Chasing Those Guys was Ruff Ryderz from the loser's bracket, put there by none other than, Those Guys.

Ruff Ryderz came back through the loser's bracket to face-off against Ruff Ryderz and the rematch was set.

These two teams definitely did not disappoint in the final game. Both teams showed up and left everything out on

New Years Tournament continues to page 4



# New Elders receive Orientation and Gifts

Ak-Chin's newest group of elders who will turn 55 in 2023 were invited to attend a New Elder Orientation at the Ak-Chin Elder Center on Wednesday, January 25.

Four soon-to-be of age elders attended the short orientation that was hosted by the Ak-Chin Elder Center.

"This is not just a group of new elders, this is also a group of leaders!" shared Leslie Carlyle-Burnett, Ak-Chin Elder Program Director.

"This is the first class (Class of 86) to begin the Hawaii Trip! This is also the first "new elder orientation"!"

The orientation was a fun night of sharing and information exchange, as the new elders were asked about their likes, hobbies and the sort.

There was also lots of reminiscing and laughter as Leslie briefly read through the Elder Center Policies, Services and other documents.

To get a feel for what it is like to be an elder, the new elders went home with an attendance prize of two dozen eggs and a suitcase for future travels.

A light dinner of sub sandwiches and all the fixings was also provided.

If you are going to be a new elder this year and missed the new elder orientation, we are sorry we missed you.

Please stop by the Elder Center and we will be happy to provide you with a packet and review of the policies and services the Elder Center provides.



Left: Chairman Robert Miguel points out his favorite sub toppings for his sandwich during the New Elder Orientation January 25.

Below: Soon-to-be (baby) elders enjoy their two dozen eggs that were gifted to them for attending the orientation. From left: Robert Miguel, Raychel Peters, Flora Howerton and Vicky Smith.



# Winter Storytelling brings Community Together

Story and photos by R. Peters

During the month of January, the Ak-Chin Language Program offered two storytelling sessions.

Both nights brought together a nice gathering of community members who made their way to the field across from the Ak-Chin Language/Cultural building for an evening meal and storytelling by Barnaby Lewis and Camillus Lopez.

Thursday, January 5, Barnaby Lewis from the Gila River Indian Community shared several stories with those gathered.

Everyone also enjoyed a warm home-cooked meal of red and green chili, beans, potato salad and ce:ma:it.

Barnaby shared several stories that evening. As he shared, you could see and hear the animation and energy in his voice as he spoke in O'odham and English.

He also performed a song after his storytelling.

All in attendance were captivated by his stories and seemed content with their meal and warmth of the fire.

On Friday, January 20, Camillus Lopez from the Tohono O'odham Nation was invited to share stories.

He was also a very active and energetic storyteller who shared many stories.

He also shared in O'odham and English translations. He asked those gathered if there were any stories they wanted to hear and many suggested stories.

to keep them up until February if anyone would like to hear them.

Some of his stories featured are: Sensitivity re; O'odham, Ha'icu ab a:g ni'ok, and Jehnegida.

The Language program decided to host the Storytelling events in January because, "storytelling (is) only told in the winter and (we) wanted to share with the community."

Language also worked with both storytellers in the past and had heard them speak, and that is how they were selected.



Camillus Lopez and the Ak-Chin Youth Council



Barnaby during storytelling on Jan. 5



Barnaby Lewis and Language Program staff

Before he began his wife shared a song. Menudo was served for dinner. Camillus also shared that some of his stories were on YouTube and plans

They have also heard the stories Barnaby and Camillus shared from different people from other O'odham tribes.

They agreed that all the stories both storytellers told were good and they liked hearing the different versions.

Ak-Chin Language is also planning on doing a

night of singing, and once they have their dates.

"We will let you know... Keep an eye out in the newspaper of more activities we will be hosting."

Ak-Chin Language Program would like to thank the following: All Youth Council for

serving the food and chopping the wood.

Tony Jose, Channing Hoffman, Albert Santiago, and Dennis Antone for chopping the wood, keeping the fire going and laying out the coals, and Kim Vincent for helping with the serving the food.

## Elder January Breakfast-Lunch Menu

<b>6</b> Biscuits & Gravy, Green Chili Scrambled Eggs, Fruit   Chicken Enchiladas, Zucchini, Brown Rice, Pineapples	<b>13</b> Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Hash brown Casserole, Fruit Salad   Chili Beans, Chili Meat, Salad, Corn Bread, Pears
<b>7</b> Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Fruit   Butternut Squash Soup, Turkey Sandwich, Strawberry Cookies	<b>14</b> Boiled Eggs, Avocado Sausage Toast, Grapes W/ Cottage Cheese   Chicken Cordon Blue, Green Beans, Carrots, Spring Salad, Rolls, Strawberry Shortcake
<b>8</b> Mini Quesadillas, Scrambled Eggs, Muffin, Fruit   Black Eyed Peas, Pork Chop, Spinach Salad, Fruit Cocktail	<b>15</b> Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Fruit   Ground Beef Tacos, Spanish Rice, Corn Salad, Plums
<b>9</b> Cream of Wheat, Boiled Eggs, Raisin Bread, Cantaloupe   Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Mixed Vegetables, Apple/Oranges	<b>16</b> Veggie Omlete, Toast, Fruit   Salad Bar, Potato Soup, Rolls, Jell-O
<b>10</b> Egg Casserole, Sausage, Toast, Pineapple   Spaghetti, Romain Salad, Rolls, Jell-O w/ Strawberries	<b>** Menu subject to change **</b>

## Valentine's Elder Chair Volleyball TOURNAMENT

REGISTRATION DEADLINE FEB. 3RD

TOURNAMENT DATE FEB. 15TH

GAMES BEGIN AT 8 A.M. 1ST-3RD PLACE AWARDS

ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST 55+

To register your team(s) please email: Recreation@ak-chin.nsn.us or for more information call (520) 568-1740



Newspaper of the  
Ak-Chin Indian Community  
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Maricopa, Arizona 85139

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Ak-Chin O'dham Runner  
16600 N. Maricopa Hwy  
Maricopa, Arizona 85139

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements and wishes  
may be phoned in, faxed  
or e-mailed.

#### ARTWORK, LETTERS, STORIES

The Ak-Chin O'dham  
Runner is a Community  
Newspaper and encourages  
Community involvement.

If you have artwork, photos,  
poems or a great story that  
you would like to share,  
please contact us so we  
can include it in "YOUR"  
newspaper. Also, if you have  
suggestions or comments  
about "YOUR" newspaper,  
let the Runner Staff know  
that too.

All submitted letters MUST  
be signed by the author and  
are limited to 200 words.  
Authors must also include  
their name, address, and  
phone number. Names can  
be omitted by request.  
Anonymous submissions will  
not be accepted.

We reserve the right to edit  
all submitted material for  
clarity, grammar and good  
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be received as typed or  
non-cursive writing. Please  
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Submitted pictures need a  
return address and brief  
description. Pictures with no  
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Allow 2 weeks for return.

#### SUBSCRIPTION RATE

2023 Subscription rate is  
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**16600 N. Maricopa Hwy**  
**Maricopa, Arizona 85139**

Make check/money order  
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#### DEADLINE

Don't forget the  
DEADLINE for the  
**February 17 - March 2, 2023**  
issue is due by  
**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH**

Please submit all  
announcements, wishes, etc.  
no later than  
**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH**

Material submitted after the  
**FEBRUARY 10TH DEADLINE**  
cannot be guaranteed  
placement. If appropriate  
and relevant, it will be  
included in the next issue.

# Exceptional Community Hero Awards Presented to Ak-Chin Security Team for Life Saving Efforts



Above, Ak-Chin Security team from Harrah's Ak-Chin receive Exceptional Community Hero Awards (below) for their life saving efforts at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino.



(MARICOPA, AZ, 12/3/22) – The inaugural Exceptional Community Hero Award was presented to five members of Harrah's Ak-Chin Security Team for their life saving efforts during the Exceptional Community Hospital Holiday Party. Award recipients are: Dan Guerrero, Ron Ivec, Matt Woodard, Edgar Garcia, and Dana Sass.

Earlier this fall, a man went into cardiac arrest during his stay at the casino. The security team quickly activated the protocol for medical emergencies and used their resources to initiate critical care. The man was quickly transported by Ak-Chin Fire to Exceptional Community Hospital in Maricopa, where he received additional treatment and survived.

Exceptional Community Hospital staff felt it was important to recognize the efforts of the first

responders and thank them for assisting in saving this man's life.

"Our number one priority is saving lives. We came to Maricopa because we knew this community needed local access to critical care. We have an amazing ER staff committed to providing quality medical care. With the assistance of Harrah's Security Team and Ak-Chin Fire Department, a wife was able to take her beloved husband home alive. Exceptional Community Hospital is here to serve the community and partner with first responders to ensure positive outcomes for all of our patients."

The Harrah's Ak-Chin Security Team had recently undergone training for medical emergencies. Their quick response and the use of the lifesaving equipment was crucial in this man's positive outcome.

*Mega Volleyball continued from Front*

which is essential for team coordination; and that was best illustrated by our leaders from team Community Government.

We have always believed that sports have a blend of values that reflects on our day to day life. Sports provide a platform to practice discipline and maintain strong bonding with colleagues. It also pushes employees out of their comfort zone and clubs; the work-related pressure with an element of fun. The friendly competition in

promotes team building opportunities and is a great opportunity for employees to showcase the importance of team work skills and working together towards a common goal. We, the Parks and Recreation staff, enjoy creating these employee tournaments to boost the employee morale and make priceless memories.

We hope to see you all out at the next Employee Tournament, get your teams ready! Again, thank you to all Ak-Chin Community and

A k - C h i n Circle had so much fun playing Mega Volleyball! We laughed a lot and it was great as a team building outing; even though we lost out early. We are very appreciative of the Ak-Chin Recreation for hosting these employee-gear events. We CANNOT wait to participate in the next event! P.S. – We need practice time next event. LOL!" – Henry Garcia, HR Coordinator, Ak-Chin Circle Entertainment Center

"The Mega Volleyball is a great opportunity to team build. You have to work together to move this huge ball across the net. As it is in all sports, you must work as a team. It is also valuable to come together as the Community government employees and blow off steam. We have a serious role in making sure that the government provides stability to the Community that we serve. It's good to create a sense of unity and comradery amongst the teams that make that happen. I was also surprised at the ladies from the Elder Center,



**2nd Place Team- Community Government**

they were really good at talking trash, I got my eye on you Ms. Georgia!" – John McCullough, HR Resources Supervisor, Ak-Chin Indian Community.

"I had a great time, showed teamwork with departments and employees, great team building. Thank You Recreation for putting it on." – Gabriel Lopez, Ak-Chin Councilmember

"Congratulations to the Ak-Chin Police Department Mega Volleyball team members represented by our Communications, Patrol and Security. When a team takes ownership of its problems, the problem gets solved. It is true on the battlefield, it is true in business, and it is true in life." - Jocko Willink  
"Thank you to all participating

Departments for the fun filled competition and to the Recreation staff for hosting the event." – Manuel Garcia, Chief of Police

"The purpose of having employee tournaments is to create a positive and exciting environment so we can improve employee participation. We want departments to build teamwork, by coming together out of their comfort zone to strategically plan on how to play the game. Promote and encourage positive motivation to boost employee morale. Increase communication by networking and socializing to get to know each other better. But, best of all is to see employees laugh, smile and feel totally relaxed." – Ann Marie Antone, Parks & Recreation Director.



**3rd Place Team- Limping Ain't Easy**

sports teaches the value of discipline, tolerance, and cooperation.

Enterprise employees who participated.

Playing any kind of sport leads one to observe situations better and

**The following are quotes from some of our Mega Volleyball Participants:**

IN THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT 45525 West Farrell Road Maricopa, AZ 85139 Phone (520) 568-1385 Fax (520) 568-1386	
In the Matter of the Adoption of:	CASE NO.: CV-2023-001-VIL
A.A. D.O.B: 04/09/2005	<b>CIVIL SUMMONS</b>
THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY TO:	
Alonzo Arellanes	
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Civil Action has been filed against you in the Court of the Ak-Chin Indian Community.	
YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO FILE A FORMAL WRITTEN ANSWER in the said matter within a period of 20 days if you are served within the boundaries of the Ak-Chin Indian Community; 30 days if you are served outside the boundaries of the Ak-Chin Indian Community at the Clerk of the Ak-Chin Indian Community Court, accompanied by the necessary filing fee; further you must send a copy of your written answer to:	
Mercedes & Fernando Rivera 13019 North Farm Lane Maricopa AZ 85138	
After you have been served and the written answer period has lapsed, the Tribal Court shall set a date for a hearing of this matter, and you will be notified of the time and date that you will be required to appear.	
IF YOU FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THIS SUMMONS a judgment by default will be entered against you and the opposing party shall be awarded the relief demanded in this matter.	
GIVEN under my hand and seal of Ak-Chin Indian Community Court in the State of Arizona this 24th day of January, 2023.	
Deanna Rascon, Court Administrator of the Ak-Chin Indian Community Court	

The Ak-Chin Indian Community  
Indian Education Committee  
(JOM) Meeting  
Thursday, February 9, 2023  
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM  
Water Reclamation Facility (WRF)  
Conference Room  
46200 W. Ralph Street

The Committee invites all parents  
and guardians of school age children  
3 – 18 years of age who are interested  
in learning about The Ak-Chin  
Indian Community Indian Education  
Committee.



# Carrieanna in action

Story and photos by T. Marshburn



Carrieanna Villareal plays guard on freshman and Junior Varsity basketball for Desert Vista High School.

The freshman team is undefeated with a record of 9-0 and the JV team isn't fair behind with the record 12-1. There

next game will be Friday February 3 at 4 pm at Gilbert high school this is the last game before the playoffs



2nd place Ball it up



3rd place the Unknowns



2nd Place Those Guys



3rd place Warriors

the court, it was a very competitive, passionate, run and gun game from tip off.

Before the buzzer sound, Ruff Ryderz were rewarded as the champions, when their final bucket counted for the 62-47 win (with

44.2 seconds still on the clock). Those Guys accepted Runners-Up and Warriors placed Third.

A big thank you to all teams from the Men's and Women's divisions who participated in our tournament and we

can't wait to see you all at our next basketball tournament.

We would like to recognize and show our appreciation to the Ak-Chin Runner staff and the Maricopa High School District.

## PLAY INSPIRED

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The Notah Begay III Foundation, First Tee - Phoenix and US Sports Camps will provide sport and educational opportunities for local Native American and Indigenous youth. Aimed at removing barriers to sport and leveling the playing field for all, this program will offer the chance for youth athletes ages 7-17, all genders, all abilities and experience levels the opportunity to attend camps with top national and local coaches.

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Powered by the NB3 Foundation, First Tee - Phoenix and US Sports Camps

Program Eligibility & Application Materials:  
Submissions are currently by invite only, through Nike's community partners. If approved, registration will be paid directly to the camp for tuition and facility fees. US Sports Camps and Nike have partnered with previously vetted nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations, to administer and manage its sponsorship invites. Each entity is responsible for managing its portion of the fund, including performing all reviews and decisions for applications. The Nike Sports Camp registration program is subject to camp capacity availability and attendance confirmation through Nike's community partners.

## ARE YOU READY?

### Sports Camps

Transportation to events will be provided by Ak-Chin Parks and Recreation Department

For more information or questions, please contact Wesley Gonzalez at [WGonzalez@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:WGonzalez@ak-chin.nsn.us) or 520-568-1740

**Open to the first 50 participants**  
Ages: 7-17 year old's

**Registration Deadlines are the following**

**Golf Experience February 3rd**

**Football Experience February 6th**

**Baseball Experience February 13th**  
Athletic Shoes Required  
Nike N7 Sports Experience

**PLEASE SEE NIKE N7 FLYER FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION**

AK-CHIN RECREATION  
High School Boy's & Girl's

## AK-CHIN BASKETBALL

### REGISTRATION

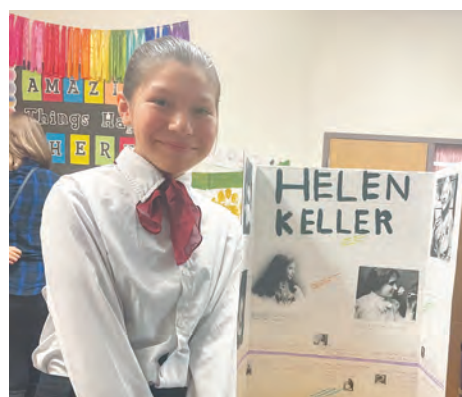
**PRACTICE BEGINS FEBRUARY 4TH @ 4PM**  
**DEADLINE FEBRUARY 17TH**

**REQUIREMENTS:**  
AK-CHIN COMMUNITY MEMBER  
OR  
RESIDENT ENROLLED IN A FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBE  
MUST BE A 2022-2023 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (520) 568-1740**  
**OR EMAIL RECREATION@AK-CHIN.NSN.US**

## Students shine during school events

Story and photos submitted



L to R: Saddleback Elementary students Aubree Miranda, Aurora Peters, Kylie Hill, Narin Lopez, Norissiyah Yarberry, Ricky Attakai and Xadrian Miguel participate in the Wax Museum event portraying historical figures.



Right: Maricopa Elementary School student, Victoria Game, at the Winter Recital.

Bottom: Maricopa High School student, Jaelin Guerin, at the Marketing Day event where he sold stickers, bracelets, and surprise gift boxes. The event showcased the talents necessary to be a successful entrepreneur and salesman.





# Free Cobra Striking Class offered at Ak-Chin

Story and photos by R.Peters

On Wednesdays from 5:30-7:30pm you can find Coach Armando Lucio teaching a FREE Striking Class for anyone interested to learn, ages 16 and up, at Ak-Chin Circle. Classes are held at 16000 N. Maricopa Rd. Maricopa, AZ. 85139 (Northeast corner of Ak-Chin Entertainment Center).

Armando coaches both pro and amateur fighters, MMA style fighting – Muay Thai-Kickboxing-Wrestling-Boxing. He also works with fighters in Mesa on Thursdays and has a Fight Camp in Payson on the weekends. Cobra Fight Club is a non-profit, 501c3. It is MMA based, “a lot of stand-up kicks, punches, elbows, knees, and some take downs.”

Armando jokes that the class is a great place to “meet and beat people up – shake hands, beat each other up and in the end, you’ve got a new

friend.”

Armando has been coaching since 2015. He has been fighting since he was young. His uncles did karate and his cousins have a boxing gym in Eloy. He works and travel coaches, as he has a son and daughter that are also in training for wrestling. His daughter Morgan is ranked No. 1 wrestler in her weight/age group.

Coach Lucio strives to keep his classes and training affordable to all. He knows how hard it is to pay for the expensive gym memberships so he is always looking for sponsors to help support young kids and get equipment to those who can’t afford it.

He would like to get more people from the community involved, and “give back to the community.” He’s also happy to get something



in Maricopa. “I’ve tried to do something in Maricopa for a long time, because Maricopa didn’t have anything for a long time. Now they’re getting more out here, but not MMA.”

David “DT” Trujillo, Operations Manager at Ak-Chin Circle Entertainment Center is one of Armando’s students and he’s been teaching him for a long time, along with DT’s daughter.

Lucio says it’s a fun sport that teaches life skills and how to be a better person. It also instills self-discipline and a

healthy lifestyle, for all ages. He encourages everyone to come to his free Wednesday class. “Get everyone off their butts and come work out.”

Armando also offers private lessons, women’s self-defense classes and push-get away drills. If you would like to learn more about the Striking Class or Cobra Fight Club, you can reach Coach Armando at: 520-705-0689.

THUNDERBIRD FIRE DISTRICT

BENEFIT STEAK DINNER

FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2023

\$25.00 PER PERSON

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AND OTHERS

For ages: 16 and Up

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THUNDERBIRD FIRE STATION

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Tyaun Marshburn continued from

Cronkite News on Arizona PBS as a health reporter for minorities. I also interned at the TV show RightThisMinute where my duties included finding interesting videos that were worthy of going viral.

My favorite part about being a journalist is storytelling through images and videos. My dream job is to be an entertainment news reporter, but until then I’m enjoying my time in the Ak-Chin Community. Everyone has been so nice and welcoming.

I look forward to continuing to work with and learn from everyone in the community.



The Total Acre Grower clinic returned to Ak-Chin for their annual 3-day long convention. This year there were roughly 575 attendees from 31 states across the country. Smaller groups meet up regionally throughout the year but this is their only full group planter clinic.

Majority of the crops planted are a variety of different cover crops, to help best support future corn and soybean growth. The event is lead by Randy Dowdy and David

record-holding crop farmers. The members of the organization pay a fee to work alongside and learn from some of the best in the business. Registration chargers for this event is included in the members annual fee.

This year like previous years they had outside hands on exhibits where the farmers could see the results of different planting techniques and classroom style classes. Among the topics discussed were improving returns through grain marketing,

plant health and tissue optimization, the latest equipment technology, higher yields by unlocking the soil’s full potential and growing a farm’s return on investment.

In a press release from the organization Hula said “While our focus is on learning from experts, it’s also an opportunity for elite growers from different states and regions to network and come together as a singular community and to learn from each other.”



For questions about the Injury Prevention Program  
please call or email Teri De La Cruz at 520-568-1087 TDeLaCruz@ak-chin.nsn.us

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Call Injury Prevention for more information  
520-568-1087

Car Seat  
Check  
Event

Thursday, February 09, 2023  
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Elements Conference Center  
16000 N. Maricopa Rd.  
Maricopa, AZ 85139

Learn how to install your car  
seat, and have your child's car  
seat or booster checked by a  
Certified Child Passenger  
Safety Technician.

REAR-FACING CAR SEAT

FORWARD-FACING CAR SEAT

BOOSTER SEAT

SEAT BELT

For questions about the Injury Prevention Program  
please call or email Teri De La Cruz at 520-568-1087 TDeLaCruz@ak-chin.nsn.us





GRHC COVID-19 HOTLINE  
(520) 550-6079



GRHC.ORG/HUB

## FEBRUARY

### COVID-19 / FLU VACCINE LOCATIONS

You may also visit any of the GRHC Primary Care Departments for vaccines at any time during regular office hours.



SCAN FOR VACCINE  
INFORMATION

**Red Tail Hawk Health Center**  
**Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**10 am - 2 pm**

**Red Tail Hawk Health Center**  
**Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**10 am - 2 pm**

## Ak-Chin Indian Community COVID-19 TESTING DATES

**February 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
**5 pm - 7 pm**

**Ak-Chin Multipurpose Justice Complex, Maricopa, AZ 85139**

## Coming Soon!

**GRHC to participate in the Health Information Exchange  
Learn How Patients Will Benefit!**

### Q: What is a Health Information Exchange?

**A:** The Health Information Exchange (HIE) is a system used by healthcare providers to privately and securely store and exchange patient (medical) data.

- *It is extremely important for a healthcare provider to have immediate access to your medical data during a medical emergency so that the patient can receive immediate care*
- *When a patient is enrolled into the Health Information Exchange, it enables healthcare providers to have access to accurate patient information and offer immediate care*

### Q: What information is available on the Health Information Exchange?

**A:** Patient clinical records: current medications, test results, allergy profile, and other information deemed vital to your care. Demographic information necessary to identify the patient (birth date & address)

### Q: Is my information safe?

**A:** Yes, your medical information is kept private and secure and is viewable only by authorized healthcare providers as needed

### Q: How do you keep my information safe?

**A:** All systems must comply with the security rules of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)

- *Hi-tech systems prevent unauthorized access and secure patient records to the greatest extent possible*

### Q: How does this benefit me?

**A:** Gila River Health Care patients benefit in the following ways:

- *Emergency treatment without delays*
- *More complete and accurate patient medical information*
- *Improved medical care*
- *Patient empowerment and access to medical records*

### Q: What if I don't want to participate?

**A:** You can obtain information about how to withdraw from the exchange by visiting Health Information Management, Primary Care Department or Customer Service Representative.

You can also withdraw when registering at Patient Registration.

*Scan Here To  
Learn More!*



For more information about HIE, please contact (520) 562-3321 Ext. 1399 or visit GRHC.ORG/HIE

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE: CALL OR TEXT 988

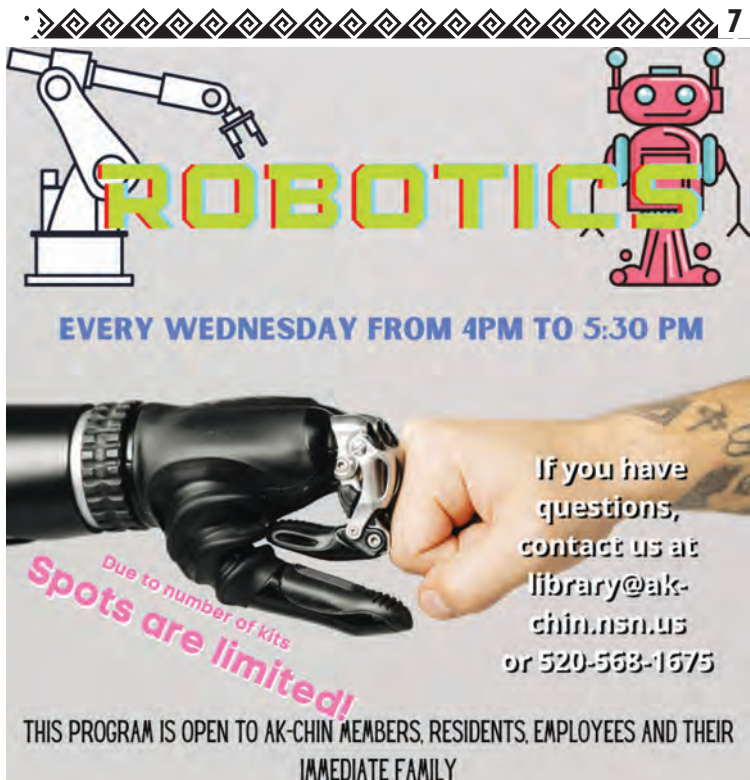
Gila River Indian Community CRISIS HOTLINE: 1-800-259-3449





February 2023						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Questions? Call Us! 520-568-1675 <b>Library Hours:</b> Monday - Friday 9am-6pm Saturday Appointment Only Sunday Closed			1 Buddy's Reading Circle * 2-6:30 LEGO Robotics 4-5:30	2	3	4
	6	7	8 Buddy's Reading Circle* 2-6:30 LEGO Robotics 4-5:30	 9		11
 12	Multi Media Monday 5-5:45 	14	15	16	17	18
	13		Buddy's Reading Circle* 2-6:30 LEGO Robotics 4-5:30	Tasty Crafts w/Amy 5-5:45		LIBRARY CLOSED
	20	21	22	23	24	25
	LIBRARY CLOSED		Buddy's Reading Circle 2-6:30* LEGO Robotics 4-5:30	Tasty Crafts w/Amy 5-5:45		
26	27		1	2	3	4
	Multi Media Monday 5-5:45		Buddy's Reading Circle 2-6:30* LEGO Robotics 4-5:30			

\* Participants must be signed up for program to attend. Call 520-568-1675 for more information



**ROBOTICS**

EVERY WEDNESDAY FROM 4PM TO 5:30 PM

If you have questions, contact us at [library@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:library@ak-chin.nsn.us) or 520-568-1675

Due to number of kits  
**Spots are limited!**

THIS PROGRAM IS OPEN TO AK-CHIN MEMBERS, RESIDENTS, EMPLOYEES AND THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILY



**Tasty Crafts**

Tasty Crafts with Miss Amy is open to ages 8 and up

2nd and 4th Thursday of the Month @ 5pm to 5:45 pm

Any Questions or Concerns  
Please call 520-568-1675 or Email [abatopis@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:abatopis@ak-chin.nsn.us)

## JOB OPENINGS

- Airport Operations Technician
- Communications Officer
- Detention Officer - Certified and Non-Certified
- Economic Development Analyst
- General Worker
- Police Officer - Certified and Non-Certified
- Senior Planner
- Sr. Network Systems Specialist



Please visit our website at [www.ak-chin.nsn.us](http://www.ak-chin.nsn.us), for Job Openings, to review the job posting and apply. If you need assistance, please call Human Resources at 520-568-1050.

Happy Valentine's Day!




From the staff  
at the Runner

## Wishes

Happy Birthday to my daughter Jeannette Love, Mom

Happy Birthday to my granddaughter Audrina, Michaela and Aleena and to my grandsons Eugene Jr., and Marlon Love, Grandma

Happy Birthday Charlie and Alex  
Love your family



### EMPLOYEE BIRTHDAYS FEBRUARY

- 1-Feb  
Wesley Gonzalez, Parks & Recreation  
Anthony Giovanni, Fire & Safety  
Christopher Cypriano, Maintenance
- 4-Feb  
Francine Sanchez, Early Childhood
- 7-Feb  
Roman Orona, Environmental Protection  
Matthew Tess, Education  
Concepcion Miguel, PRC
- 8-Feb  
Jade Rodriguez, Law & Order
- 10-Feb  
Julia Dickerson, Education
- 11-Feb  
Salinda Lopez, Human Resources  
Jeannette Peters, Him Dak Museum  
Kyle Chavez, Law & Order
- 12-Feb  
Grace Pablo, Housing Department
- 13-Feb  
Justin Burke, Fire & Safety  
Griselda Fonseca Saldana, Maintenance
- 14-Feb  
Lori Leavitt, Fire & Safety
- 15-Feb  
Diana Velazquez, Education
- 19-Feb  
Debbie Soliz, IS  
Lisa Garcia, Community Government
- 20-Feb  
Aaron Apodaca, Retail
- 21-Feb  
Randon Quasula, Maintenance
- 25-Feb  
Alexander Lopez, Parks & Recreation
- 27-Feb  
Terry Zicafoose, Early Childhood
- 28-Feb  
Rebecca Alvarez, IS  
Raymond Whitman, Transit  
Kathleen Cardenas-Ruiz, Finance

### BIRTHDAYS FEBRUARY 1ST - 16TH

- 02/01  
Ian Narcia  
Christopher Cypriano  
Angelina Arellanes-Burgos  
Chyenne Anderson  
Adam Bowman
- 02/02  
Preciousrose Warren  
Jonah Dickerson  
David Manuel Jr.
- 02/03  
Elizabeth Antone
- 02/04  
Latasha White
- 02/05  
Dominique Nosie-Romo  
Charles Carlyle  
Benny Romo
- 02/06  
Stella Miguel  
Audrina Antone
- 02/07  
Berco Thompson Jr.  
Eugene Peters Jr.
- 02/08  
Elizabeth Baptisto  
Geneva Antone  
Marcos Olivas Jr.  
Deana Quinonez
- 02/09  
Aiyana Campbell
- 02/10  
Isaiah Osife  
Alexandra Carlyle  
Julia Dickerson  
Draven Soliz
- 02/11  
Marlon Peters  
Kyle Chavez  
Mary Diaz  
Jeanette Peters
- 02/12  
Destiney Delowe  
Erin Pete  
Grace Pablo  
Caleb Ugalde
- 02/13  
Koren Marrietta  
Karin Smith
- 02/14  
Valentina Narcia  
Michaela Peters  
Deli Anna Lewis  
Justin Perillo  
Johnny Stephens
- 02/15  
Terry Aguilla Jr.  
Carole Lopez  
Aleena Antone  
Cheyenne Vallejos
- 02/16  
Lanita Lopez  
Gianna Garcia





# Theresa Caputo Live! The Experience

Story by Runner Staff; Photo by D. Carlyle

Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino had the pleasure of hosting Theresa Caputo for the second time on Saturday, January 21, 2023.

Theresa Caputo is an American TV personality, on the TLC reality series, Long Island Medium. Caputo is known for her physic medium powers, which she uses to reunite spirits with their loved ones here on earth, to validate their feelings and bring closure.

During the Harrah's show, Theresa was able to communicate with spirits by using her sense of feel, and sight. Her sole goal is to help people understand and embrace life with her spiritual powers. Here ability to communicate with the dead has brought her to "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno," "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon," "The Steve Harvey Show," "Live with Kelly and Michael," and "The Today Show."

"The Experience" as the tour was called brought Caputo face

to face with her fans that were eager to get a reading from her, but as she explained, spirits come to her and guide her to the their loved one, as she walks throughout the room, and at times she may encounter more than one spirit reaching out to their loved ones.

The Harrah's Events Center was a great venue for the up-close experience, regardless of the seat. A video display was also available on two large screens to ensure every single person in the audience had that personal experience. The audience was very emotional even before the show started. Spirits guided Caputo throughout the audience, and as she vocalized what she was feeling and hearing, the audience would raise their hands letting Theresa know that was their loved one communicating through her. Caputo would then come close to the person as she was giving the information that was being relayed to her.

A very emotional story that

captivated the audience's hearts was the one of a father and mother who had lost their two sons due to an overdose. The father was in tears when Caputo relayed the message from one of his sons asking her to save their dad.

The father had been struggling with guilt and regret since the passing of his sons. Caputo was able to bring some relief to the family by assuring them, they were not at fault and all they wanted was to see him happy and move on with life.



Caputo focuses on audience member as she relays messages from their loved ones.

There were many other happiness was felt throughout readings and all very the room. Whether a believer emotional. As people were or not, the positive energy in exiting the room after the the room was felt by many. show, a sense of relief and



**FEBRUARY: KIDS EAT FREE**

RECEIVE A FREE KIDS MEAL WITH PURCHASE OF REGULAR MENU ENTREE. MUST PRESENT COUPON TO SERVER. NO SUBSTITUTIONS. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER SPECIALS, OFFERS OR DISCOUNTS. ONE COUPON PER TABLE. NO SPLIT CHECKS. DOES NOT INCLUDE ALCOHOL. NON-TRANSFERABLE. NOT AVAILABLE ON SUNDAYS. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/23.

**(520) 426 - 6832 ARROYOGRILLE.COM**

**JOIN US FOR LIVE MUSIC ON THE PATIO!**

**VALENTINE'S DAY SWEETHEART WINE DINNER EVENT**

**SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25**

**LIVE MUSIC & PRIME RIB**

**WEEKLY SPECIALS @5PM**

RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED

**(520) 426 - 6832 ARROYOGRILLE.COM**

**\$100 DATE Night**

**TUESDAY FEB 14**

**SPECIAL INCLUDES**

- 1 Bottle of Wine
- 1 Appetizer
- 2 Entrées of your Choice
- 2 Movie Tickets
- 2 Reg. Drinks & 1 Reg. Popcorn

\*Price is listed for 2 People. Taxes and Gratuity not included. Reservations highly suggested. Black Oak Wines while supplies last Non Alcoholic option available. Available for purchase at Box Office.

**Happy Valentine's Day**

**AkChinCircle.com**

16000 N. Maricopa Rd. Maricopa, AZ 85139

**FEBRUARY 2023**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																							
<p><b>SUPER BOWL LVII PARTY</b></p> <p>FEBRUARY 12, 2023</p> <p>DOORS 4PM • GAME 4:30PM</p> <p>THE EVENTS CENTER AT HARRAH'S AK-CHIN CASINO</p> <p>CAESARS REWARDS</p> <p>OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF SUPER BOWL LVII</p>	<p>1 LEGACY COLLECTION BY CRG PRESTIGE TRAVEL SET GIVEAWAY*</p>	<p>2 FIND US ON FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM &amp; TWITTER!</p>	<p>3 BONUS REWARD CREDITS</p>	<p>4 SOCIAL INFLUENCERS' TOP PICK! MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS TODAY!</p>	<p>5 DOUBLE ENTRY DAY FOR THE ALASKA CRUISE DRAWING</p> <p>BONUS REWARD CREDITS</p>	<p>6 DINNER FOR TWO OR TWO DINNERS FOR ONE!</p>	<p>7 CAST IRON SERIES BY HELL'S KITCHEN™ GIVEAWAY</p>	<p>8 CAST IRON SERIES BY HELL'S KITCHEN™ GIVEAWAY</p>	<p>9 JACKPOT!</p>	<p>10 BONUS REWARD CREDITS</p>	<p>11 DOWNLOAD AND BE APPY! CAESARS REWARDS</p>	<p>12 GAME ON! BONUS REWARD CREDITS</p>	<p>13 DUNKIN' HAS YOUR MORNING AFTER COFFEE CURE.</p>	<p>14 CAST IRON SERIES BY HELL'S KITCHEN™ GIVEAWAY</p> <p>HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!</p>	<p>15 CAST IRON SERIES BY HELL'S KITCHEN™ GIVEAWAY</p>	<p>16 YOUR PRESIDENTS' DAY PROGRESSIVE STARTS HERE!</p>	<p>17 PROGRESSIVE TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER BONUS REWARD CREDITS</p>	<p>18 PROGRESSIVE TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER</p>	<p>19 PROGRESSIVE TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER BONUS REWARD CREDITS</p>	<p>20 UP TO 10X TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER!</p>	<p>21 CAST IRON SERIES BY HELL'S KITCHEN™ GIVEAWAY</p>	<p>22 CAST IRON SERIES BY HELL'S KITCHEN™ GIVEAWAY</p>	<p>23 ENTER YOUR JACKPOT FOR THE CHANCE TO WIN \$25K IN JUNE!</p>	<p>24 BONUS REWARD CREDITS</p>	<p>25 EARN AND ENTER TO WIN YOUR SHARE OF \$25,000 IN MARCH</p>	<p>26 BONUS REWARD CREDITS</p>	<p>27 SHARE YOUR EMAIL AND YOU WON'T MISS A THING! VISIT US ONLINE AT CAESARSREWARDS.COM/MYREWARDS</p>	<p>28 CAST IRON SERIES BY HELL'S KITCHEN™ GIVEAWAY</p>	<p><b>PROGRESSIVE TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER</b></p> <p>THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16 – MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2023</p>